EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210

CLASSIFICATION
OWS
CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL
OIS/DFAS
DATE

April 24, 2002

Jace A. Felone

ADVISORY: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 22-02

TO : ALL STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: GRACE A. KILBANE

Administrator

Office of Workforce Security

SUBJECT: Procedures for Requesting and Repaying Title XII Advances from the Federal

Unemployment Account(FUA)

1. <u>Purpose</u>. Provide updated requirements and procedures for requesting advances and making voluntary repayments of funds from the FUA in the Unemployment Trust Fund (UTF).

- 2. <u>References</u>. Title XII, Social Security Act (SSA); section 3302 Federal Unemployment Tax Act; Unemployment Insurance Program Letter (UIPL) 3–91; UIPL 39–97; 20 CFR Part 606.
- 3. <u>Background</u>. Section 1201 of the SSA permits the Governor of a state to request repayable advances from the FUA for any three consecutive month period during which reserves in the state account in the UTF are insufficient to pay benefits.
- 4. <u>Delegation of Authority to Request Advances and Voluntary Repayments</u>. The Governor may delegate the authority to request Title XII advances and make voluntary repayments to another state official, if permitted by state law. The Department must be notified of this delegation by a letter from the Governor to the Secretary of Labor, (attention: Administrator, Office of Workforce Security (OWS)), enclosing a certified copy of the document evidencing such delegation, together with a facsimile signature of the official to whom such authority has been delegated. Additional evidence or certification of the Governor=s authority to so delegate will not be necessary; such authority will be assumed from the certified document.

RESCISSIONS	EXPIRATION DATE
None	April 30, 2003

A revised authorization or redelegation of authority when a new Governor takes office is not necessary unless required by state law. A new redelegation of authority must be submitted by the Governor if the person occupying the position to which the original (or subsequent) delegation was made has changed.

5. <u>Requests for Advances</u>. Procedures to be followed in requesting advances are outlined below:

Section 1201(a)(1)(A) of the SSA provides that advances shall be made to a state for the payment of compensation in any 3-month period if the Governor of the state applies no earlier than the first day of the month preceding the first month of such 3-month period; and provided further that all other qualifying requirements for obtaining advances are met.

Loan Requests. The Governor, or the person to whom such authority has been delegated by the Governor, will submit a single request to the Secretary of Labor covering a 3-consecutive-month period. If an advance is required for one or two months of the 3-consecutive-month period, the request must cover the entire 3 months. Months during which no advances are required should indicate zero dollars needed. If it later becomes necessary to borrow for these months, an amended or supplemental request must be submitted.

Requests for advances are to be addressed to the Secretary of Labor to the attention of the Administrator of OWS, and received no earlier than the first day of the month preceding the first month for which authorization is requested and no later than 15 working days before the first day a loan is actually required in order to provide sufficient time for processing. The letter should be faxed to OWS (202-693-3229).

The Administrator of OWS will review the request to ensure it meets the requirements of section 1201 of the SSA and will certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the maximum amount to be transferred during each of the 3 months covered in the request. Transfer of funds to the state=s account in the UTF will be made on a daily basis, as needed to meet requisitions for benefit payments, based on the state=s balance in the UTF less amounts previously certified as valid Reed Act obligations and therefore considered not available for the payment of benefits (see UIPL 5-90 dated November 15, 1989), and including all confirmed deposits received by Treasury through the date of transfer. Reed Act distributions made under the Balanced Budget Act - given to the states on October 1, 1999, 2000, and 2001 - are considered not available for payment of benefits since they must be used solely for UI administration. (See UIPL 39-97.)

Amounts certified as available to a state in any month which are not required to meet that month=s requisitions for payment of benefits will cease to be certified as available as of the close of business the last day of that month. Unused balances will <u>not</u> be carried forward into the next month. The state will be charged interest only on that portion of certified advances that the state actually draws down.

The Governor or his/her delegate may submit a supplemental request for any month in which it is later determined that the previously approved amount is insufficient to meet benefit payment obligations. A Governor or his/her delegate will fax (202-693-3229) a copy of supplemental or emergency advance requests to the Secretary of Labor attention: Administrator, OWS.

Emergency requests should include (1) the dollar amount requested, and (2) the date on which the Governor or his/her delegate estimates the funds will be needed.

The Governor or his/her delegate will be promptly advised of action taken on requests for Title XII advances.

6. <u>Voluntary Repayment of Advances</u>. The Governor or his/her delegate may at any time request that funds be transferred from the account of the state in the UTF to the FUA in repayment of part or all of advances made to the state under Section 1201 of the SSA. The procedures for voluntary repayments are outlined below.

Voluntary Repayments Process. Section 1202(b)(6)(A) of the SSA provides that any voluntary repayment by a state under Section 1202(a) shall be applied on a last-made, first-repaid basis. Any other repayment of advances, e.g., repayment of advances through reduced FUTA credits, shall be applied on a first made first repaid basis.

A request for voluntary repayment under Section 1202(a) of the Act must be made in a letter faxed to the Secretary of Labor, (attention: Administrator, OWS) signed by the Governor or the official to whom this authority has been delegated by the Governor of the state. Transfer of funds requested will be accomplished on the later of the date requested or the date of receipt of the letter.

The Governor or delegate may submit a specific request that does not contain specific dollar amounts, but does authorize the transfer of all available funds as of COB each day, for a specific period, from the state account to the FUA for the repayment of advances. The letter requesting the general transfer must give permission to the Secretary of Labor to authorize repayments

up to the amount of the outstanding loan balance, subject to the availability of funds in the state account, and provide specific beginning and ending dates within which the transfers will be executed. No specific dollar amounts and no individual effective dates of repayment will be included. When a state uses this process, there will be one letter from the Governor or designate to the Secretary of Labor and one letter from the Secretary of Labor to the Secretary of Treasury.

The requested amount of repayment will be certified to the Secretary of the Treasury for transfer from the state's account in the UTF to the FUA to be effective on the date as determined above. The Governor or his/her designate will be promptly advised of action taken on the request for voluntary repayment of Title XII advances.

Scheduled partial repayments may be requested if the condition of the state unemployment reserve improves sufficiently to permit programmed repayments. A state may elect to voluntarily repay interest-bearing Title XII loans on a scheduled basis. The schedule will serve to advise the Treasury Department that authorization is being given to transfer specific amounts on designated days during the period covered by the schedule. The total repayment stated in the Governor's (or his/her delegate's) letter must agree with the sum of all repayments specified in the schedule. The determination as to a state's ability to schedule repayments rests with the state. The state workforce agency is responsible for assuring that sufficient funds are available in its account in the UTF to make each scheduled repayment.

A state may receive Title XII advances and make voluntary repayments during the same month. However, such repayments must be made in accordance with the procedure contained in this advisory.

If there are insufficient funds in the state's account to make the full repayment requested on the effective date as determined above, the Bureau of Public Debt (BPD) in the U.S. Treasury will transfer, unless otherwise notified, from the account of the state in the UTF to the FUA on the effective date the amount determined by them to be available for transfer on that day. The BPD will also notify the state immediately of any reduction in requested repayments.

7. <u>Transmitting, Addressing and Delivering Requests for Advances or Repayments</u>. All letters requesting Title XII advances or voluntary repayments must be faxed to:

The Honorable Elaine C. Chao (or current Secretary) Secretary of Labor U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20210

Attention: Grace A. Kilbane (or current OWS Administrator)

Room S4231

Fax number: 202-693-3229

- 8. <u>Interest Payments, Federal Unemployment Tax Act Credit Reduction, Limitation on Tax Credit Reduction, Avoidance of Tax Credit Reduction.</u> See 20 CFR Part 606 for these requirements and conditions.
- 9. <u>Action required.</u> All states should follow these procedures and submit the required documentation when requesting or repaying Title XII advances.
- 10. Inquiries. Direct questions to the appropriate Regional Office.
- 11. Attachment. Sample letters.